

1 Samuel 17:48-58 - Thursday, April 17th, 2014

- Last week we left David on the battlefield after accepting Goliath's challenge and responding to Goliath's blasphemous and defiant words.
- As we're about to see, "it's game-on," however, it's not much of a game at all, by virtue of a knockout in the first seconds of the first round.
- I say that to suggest this, it's not so much "that" David defeats him it's "how" David defeats him, which is where we pick it up in verse 48.

(48) So it was, when the Philistine arose and came and drew near to meet David, that David hurried and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine.

- This is interesting for a number of reasons not the least of which is that the narrative provides us with this peculiar detail concerning David.
- Namely, "that David hurried and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine." This after "the Philistine arose and drew near to meet David."
- I find this interesting because it was likely the first time this Philistine ever had someone run toward him, instead of running away from him.

- Be that as it may, this question still remains, why is it that God would deem it necessary to include the detail that David ran toward Goliath?
- I'm of the belief this detail speaks to how it is that even though the victory is ours, it still requires we step out in faith in our running the race.
- Moreover, even though God gave to us certain promises, it still requires we step out in faith and enter the battlefield fighting the good fight.

- We're seeing this with God giving the Promised Land to the Israelites such that, it still required them to fight the battles in order to take it.
- The point being is, we can't just sit around in spiritual laziness and wait for God to do everything under the banner of, "God's will be done."
- Sadly, the truth of the matter is, we are more prone to think "whatever will be will be," than we are to step out in faith and do our part in it.

Charles Spurgeon - "'The lazy-bones of our orthodox churches cry, 'God will do his own work'; and then they look out the softest pillow they can find, and put it under their heads, and say, 'The eternal purposes will be carried out: God will be glorified.' That is all very fine talk, but it can be used with the most mischievous design. You can make opium out of it, which will lull you into a deep and dreadful slumber, and prevent your being of any kind of use at all."

- To be fair, sometimes our unwillingness to roll up our arm sleeves and get busy for the kingdom has to do with our ambiguity than laziness.
- I would venture to say this might very well be one of the most difficult dilemma's we as Christian's face as it relates to our will vs. God's will.
- The struggle becomes one of wondering whether or not it's me doing it or God doing it, and as such, many opt to do nothing fearing failure.

I like how one commentator said it, "Many Christians struggle at this very point. Is God supposed to do it or am I supposed to do it? The answer is, "Yes!" God does it and we do it. Trust God, rely on Him, and then get to work and work as hard as you can - run right at the enemy. That is how the work of God is done."

(49) Then David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone; and he slung *it* and struck the Philistine in his forehead, so that the stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the earth.

- Here it is recorded in just one verse tucked away in this famous chapter of the Bible, David slays Goliath who falls on his face to the earth.
- One has drawn a most interesting parallel to Goliath falling on his face to the Philistine god Dagon falling his face, back in 1 Samuel 5:2-5.
- The reason I point this out is it's a demonstration of God choosing the foolish to confound the wise, which we're studying in 1 Corinthians.

Charles Spurgeon - "How are the mighty fallen! And that too by the hand of a youth, despised and ridiculed! Thus by the foolishness of preaching, the Lord smites His adversary."

(50) So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone, and struck the Philistine and killed him. But *there was* no sword in the hand of David. (51) Therefore David ran and stood over the Philistine, took his sword and drew it out of its sheath and killed him, and cut off his head with it. And when the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they fled. (52) Now the men of Israel and Judah arose and shouted, and pursued the Philistines as far as the entrance of the valley and to the gates of Ekron. And the wounded of the Philistines fell along the road to Shaaraim, even as far as Gath and Ekron. (53) Then the children of Israel returned from chasing the Philistines, and they plundered their tents. (54) And David took the head of the Philistine and brought it to Jerusalem, but he put his armor in his tent.

- To me, these verses bring up a couple of questions, one of which is why is it that David would cut off Goliath's head using Goliath's sword?
- The answer to this is sort of twofold in that David wisely knew he had to insure he was dead, and insure the Philistines knew he was dead.
- You'll forgive my graphic illustration, but I suppose you could say that when David hold's up Goliath's head, no one would have any doubt.

- Lest you think this is a humorous grasp of the obvious, let me hasten to say that this is a textbook case of one saying, "Seeing is believing."
- By any stretch of the imagination, a little teenage boy killing a giant champion warrior in the first slingshot would have been inconceivable.
- This explains why the Philistines fled when they saw that their champion was dead. In other words, seeing is believing; he's dead, they fled.

- A second question that these verses bring up is why is it that David uses Goliath's own sword to cut off his head? Here's what I'm thinking:
- Often times, God will choose to use the weapons of the enemy to give us the victory over the enemy, i.e., Mordecai's victory over Haman.
- The very gallows that Haman had prepared to hang Mordecai on, he himself would hang on. I think of what David wrote in Psalms 57:6.

Psalms 57:6 NKJV They have prepared a net for my steps; My soul is bowed down; They have dug a pit before me; Into the midst of it they *themselves* have fallen. Selah

Proverbs 26:27 NKJV Whoever digs a pit will fall into it, And he who rolls a stone will have it roll back on him.

- Actually, woven into the fabric of these verses we have no less than two very powerful and applicable take away's if I can say it that way.
- First, we must deal mercilessly with the flesh insuring we mortify the deeds of the flesh, just as David did with Goliath a type of the flesh.
- Second, we must never believe the lies of the enemy who is a deceiver, just as David did with the Philistines who wouldn't keep their word.

(55) When Saul saw David going out against the Philistine, he said to Abner, the commander of the army, "Abner, whose son *is* this youth?" And Abner said, "As your soul lives, O king, I do not know." (56) So the king said, "Inquire whose son this young man *is*." (57) Then, as David returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, Abner took him and brought him before Saul with the head of the Philistine in his hand. (58) And Saul said to him, "Whose son *are* you, young man?" So David answered, "*I am* the son of your servant Jesse the Bethlehemite."

- There is some discussion about whether or not Saul recognized who David was, by virtue of how he has to ask Abner, "Whose son is this?"

- One school of thought is that he didn't recognize him because he would have likely been behind a curtain when he played the harp for him.

- Another school of thought is he's not asking whose son David is rather he's asking whose family David is before he gives him his daughter.

- Still another school of thought suggests that Saul didn't recognize him because several years passed since David played the harp for Saul.

- Personally I'm inclined to believe Saul knew whom David was and he's simply inquiring about his future in-laws, whom he does not know.

- The reason I lean this way is because Saul would have just asked David directly who he was when he had told Saul to let him fight Goliath.

- It's at this juncture that I would like to turn a corner of sorts and look at some personally application before we tie a bow of typology on this.

- What follows are several life lessons that one can learn from this miraculous defeat of Goliath at the hands of a teenage boy named David.

- If you were to put a title on this, I suppose it could be something along the lines of, "Don'ts and Do's of Victory Over the Goliath's in my life."

1. Don't let your Goliath take from you; do take from your Goliath that which God has given to you.
2. Don't look at your God through the lens of your Goliath; do look at your Goliath through the lens of your God.
3. Don't fear the words spoken by your Goliath; do have faith in the Word spoken by your God.
4. Don't let your Goliath ridicule you; do let your God defend you.
5. Don't let your Goliath appear impossible, do let your God be the God of the impossible.
6. Don't think your Goliath will defeat you in the present or worry you about the future; do think about the victories God gave you in the past.
7. Don't look at your Goliath's armor and weaponry in the natural; do look at your God's armor and weaponry in the supernatural.
8. Don't try to be someone you're not when battling your Goliath, do be who God calls and equips you to be when battling your Goliath.
9. Don't be naïve about the tactics of your Goliath; do be as shrewd as a serpent concerning your Goliath.
10. Don't fight your battle against Goliath yourself; do let the Lord battle against Goliath Himself.
11. Don't run away from your Goliath in fear; do run toward your Goliath by faith.
12. Don't think your Goliath will be merciful to you; do be merciless to your Goliath.

DAVID	JESUS	SCRIPTURES
David was called God's firstborn	Jesus was the only begotten firstborn	Psa 89:27, Col 1:15
David was born in Bethlehem	Jesus was born in Bethlehem	1 Sam 16, 17:12 Ru 4:22, Mic 5:2, Mat 2:1
David was a shepherd of sheep	Jesus is the good shepherd of people	1 Sam 16, John 10
David had a heart after God	Jesus has the heart of God	1 Sam 16,1 Kin 11:4, John 5,10, Col 1, Phi 2
David was taken from a lowly place	Jesus came from a lowly place	1 Sam 16, Mat 2, John 1:46, Isa 7:15, 53:2
David was anointed king	Jesus is the anointed King of kings	1 Sam 16:13, 2 Sam 2.4, Ac 4:27, 1 Tim 6:15
David was not expected to be king	Jesus was not expected to be the Messiah	1 Sam 16, John 7:27
David was sent to the battle by his father	Jesus was sent to this world by the Father	1 Sam 17:17, John 3:16, 1 John 4:14
David was the 8 th son of Jesse	Jesus is the (new beginning) Son of God	1 Sam 16:10-11, 2 Cor 5:17, John 1:1-14
David brought bread to his brothers	Jesus is the bread of life for His brethren	1 Sam 17:17, John 6:35
David was sent with 10 loaves and cheeses	Jesus was sent to fulfill the law ("10")	1 Sam 17:17-18, Mat 5:17
David had 3 brothers in the battlefield	Jesus spent 3 days in the tomb	1 Sam 17:14, Mat 12:40
David is rejected and scorned by his brothers	Jesus is rejected by His Jewish brethren	1 Sam 17:28-30, John 1:11, 7:5
David came to land Israel had lost	Jesus came to seek and save what was lost	1 Sam 17:1-3, Luke 19:10
David heard Goliath challenge Israel	Jesus heard the devil challenge and test Him	1 Sam 17:23, Mat 4:1-11
David is sent after 40 days to the battlefield	Jesus spent 40 days fasting in the wilderness	1 Sam 17:16, Mat 4:1-11
David was Israel's only representative in battle	Jesus is our only representative against Satan	1 Sam 17:8-11, Rom 5:18-19
David answered to Goliath saying give me a man	Jesus didn't answer Pilate saying behold the man	1 Sam 17:10, John 19:5
David defeated the beasts of a lion and bear prior	Jesus will defeat the beast both lion and bear	1 Sam 17: 34, Dan 7
David defeated the Philistine with only one rock	Jesus will defeat Satan as the one and only Rock	1 Sam 17:50, Psa 78:35, 42:9, 89:26
David brought salvation with one rock out of five	Jesus is our Rock of salvation by grace ("5")	1 Sam 17:40-50, Eph 2:8-9
David kills 6 cubits high-6 armor-600 shekels weight	Jesus kills the beast whose number is 666	1 Sam 17:4-7, Rev 13:15-18, 19:20-21
David uses Goliath's sword to cut off his head	Jesus kills with the sword from His mouth	1 Sam 17:51, Rev 19:21
David receives an inheritance and a bride	Jesus is our inheritance and we are His bride	1 Sam 17:25, 1 Peter 1:3-5, 2 Cor 11:2
David frees Israel from slavery to the Philistines	Jesus frees us from slavery to sin	1 Sam 17:9, John 8:36, Rom 8:2
David took the Philistine's head to Jerusalem	Jesus crushed the serpents head in Jerusalem	1 Sam 17:54, Gen 3:15, John 19:30
David won the victory was good news that's spread	Jesus won our victory the good news is spread	1 Sam 17:52-53, Mark 16:15, Phi 1:3-5
David had it asked about him whose son is this	Jesus has it asked about Him whose son is He	1 Sam 17:55, Mat 22:42

Matthew 22:42 "What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?" "The son of David," they replied.

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